

The Queen of England having sent a present to the King of Siam, of a photographic apparatus, it was confided to this minister of State, and by the help of a Prussian artist who was on his way to Japan, and also of an English treatise which was read to him by an American missionary, he became acquainted with the principles and practice, and taught them to his son. These pictures are some of his productions. One of them is a portrait of himself, in a costume fitted to a warm climate. They were brought as a present from him, to several of the officers of the United States Mint, in care of Dr. House, returning to this country on a visit.

It is most interesting to observe the march of this admirable art, not waiting for the previous civilization which might seem requisite to give a taste for it, or at least a capacity for using it. But a little reflection will show that its products are exactly fitted to wake up the torpid mind, and to convince even the barbarian, of the intrinsic value of the arts and sciences, and of the social status which produces them.

Mr. P. E. Chase communicated an account of a gas explosion at Haverford College. Prof. Cresson made some remarks to elucidate the explosions which take place from defective gas pipes.

Pending nominations Nos. 541, 547 and 548, were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, February 16, 1866.*

Present, thirteen members.

Dr. WOOD, President, in the Chair.

A letter of acceptance was read from Dr. H. C. Wood, dated Philadelphia, February 5th, 1866.

A letter was read announcing the decease of a member, E. J. Bring, of Lund, dated Stockholm, 27th 11th month, 1865.

A letter desiring exchanges was received from C. H. Hart, Corresponding Secretary of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, which Society was, on motion,

ordered to be put upon the list of correspondents to receive the Proceedings.

A letter from Dr. Leidy was read respecting Captain Stellwagen's donation of the fragment of an ancient cover of a sarcophagus found at Carthage.

Letters of envoi were received from J. D. Whitney, Chief Geologist of California; the Cent. Obs., St. Petersburg, August 28th, 1865; the Vienna Academy, September 23d, and the Stockholm Academy, November 17th.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Cen. Obs., St. Petersburg, September 1st, and the Amsterdam Academy, October 18th, 1865.

Donations for the Library were announced from the Academies at St. Petersburg, Stockholm, Vienna, Munich, and Brussels; the Societies at Moscow, Giessen, Mannheim, Upsal, and Trondheim; the Observatories at St. Petersburg and Brussels; the Geological Societies at Berlin and Vienna; The Geographical Society at Paris, and the Astronomical Society at London; the British Association; M. Quetelet, Dr. Jacob Bigelow, Rev. Mr. Barnes, and Prof. Joseph D. Whitney.

A donation for the Cabinet was presented in the name of Captain Stellwagen, of the U. S. Navy. A description of the curious figures on this stone, and the history of its discovery, were promised by the donor.

Mr. Robert P. King, of Philadelphia, presented, through Prof. Trego, an Indian Pestle, found in White Deer Creek, Union County, Pa., on which Mr. Peale made some pertinent remarks.

Mr. Lesley read a letter from George A. Belcourt, Prêtre, dated Rustico, Prince Edward Island, January 1st, 1866, and another from Prof. Edward Ballard, dated Brunswick, Maine, respecting a François-Odjibowe dictionary.

Father Belcourt explains that he had not constructed a corresponding Odjibowe-François dictionary on account of the cost of printing, thinking that the Fr.-Odj. form would suffice for a time. "In con-

sequence," he adds, "I have designed the etymology French and Indian in this volume, which should have been, according to order, in their respective volumes. Should this make a difficulty, I could undertake the volume Odjibowe-François, but it would take some time, and some expenses more for the printing, though I agree that it is desirable.

"I wish to know how many copies could be given to me, and if it would be allowed to take as an indemnity for my time and labor any help that might be offered to me for the end of encouraging the publication of this work?

"I am ready at any time to send you some specimens of the work, and I am ready to answer any questions on the matter. . . ."

On motion of Mr. Barnes, the Secretary was instructed to correspond further with Father Belcourt and with Prof. Henry, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, on the subject, as it was understood that Father Belcourt had already corresponded with the Institution for the purpose of publishing the dictionary.

A communication on the nature of terrestrial magnetism was read, signed William P. Jones, 456 Franklin Street, Philadelphia, in which the author promised to lay his reasons before the Society in another communication.

A tertiary shark's tooth was presented by Mr. Fraley, with a note dated Schuylkill Haven, August, 1865, signed T. C. Juliet, stating that the tooth had been found in a piece of coal at that place by a boat captain. Dr. H. C. Wood expressed his conviction that it came from the tertiaries of New Jersey.

On motion of the Secretary it was ordered that the Maine Historical Society, at Brunswick, and the Portland Natural History Society, be placed on the list for the Proceedings.

Pending nominations Nos. 541, 547, 548 were read.

Mr. Peale reported that the Magellanic medal was ready to be bestowed.

The Secretaries reported that they found the Zeisberger MSS. Volumes catalogued in the Trans. Hist. and Lit. Committee of the A. P. S., p. xlvii, xlviii, and marked as deposited by the Society United Brethren at Bethlehem.

On motion of Dr. Coates, the Librarian was instructed to

ascertain the views of the S. U. B., as to permitting the publication of the MSS. by the A. P. S.

After which the Society was adjourned.

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*Stated Meeting, March 2, 1866.*

Present, twenty-three members.

Dr. WOOD, President, in the Chair.

A letter accepting membership was received from Mr. T. S. Blair, of Pittsburg, dated February 21st, 1866.

A letter of envoi was received from the Royal Academy, dated Amsterdam, June 26th, 1865.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, December 28th, 1865, requesting duplicates to supply deficiencies in the list of publications of the American Philosophical Society in the Library of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. On motion of Professor Cresson, the Secretaries were instructed to correspond for further information.

A letter was received from Dr. Le Conte, chairman of a "Committee of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, appointed to confer with committees that may be appointed by other learned societies in Philadelphia, who may desire to co-operate in the erection of a building to receive the libraries and collections of the participating societies," dated March 1st, 1865.

Donations for the Library were reported from the Royal Academy at Amsterdam; the Geographical Societies at St. Petersburg and Paris; the Bureau of Mines; Dr. Von Martius; Prof. W. R. Ware, of Boston; the Harvard Alumni; the Boston Natural History Society; the New York Lyceum of Natural History; the Franklin Institute, Academy of Natural Sciences, Mercantile Library, and Institution for the Blind, at Philadelphia; and the University of Michigan.

Two communications on Terrestrial Physics were read,